

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Degraaf et al.  
Appl. No : to be assigned  
Filed : to be assigned  
Title : Risk Management System and Method Providing Rule-Based  
Evolution of a Portfolio of Instruments

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 20, 2004

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Please amend the application filed herewith as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** are reflected in the listing of changes, which begins on page 2 of this amendment.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 5 of this amendment.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 13 of this amendment.